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ABSTRACT

This ungraded, annotated bibliography includes books of history and society, literature and culture and a special section devoted to the southern part of Italy. Filmstrips, slides and films are listed in the audiovisual materials bibliography. Also included is a list of sources of books and audio-visual materials that are included in a multi-media package on Italy used in the Toronto schools. (SO 003 443 is a related document.) (VW)

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A CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MATERIALS ON ITALY

Anne Witzel
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April, 1969

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A CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BOOKS ON ITALY*

THE SOUTH

The primary concern of the written report on Italy has been the "problem of the South" because it is from the South of Italy that most immigrants to Canada come. The man to whom the world is indebted for making it aware of the social problems of Southern Italy, in particular of Sicily, is Danilo Dolci. He was born in Northern Italy into a middle class home. In his youth he was a devout Catholic and a talented architectural student. But before graduation he threw over the comfor able life he was obviously destined to lead and went to work with a priest who was caring for war orphans and attempting to establish a Christian community. Dolci left the community because the priest was unwilling to include non-Catholics in his community. Dolci then proceeded to Sicily where he had spent some time as a child.

His social concern was originally inspired by his Christian faith, but as time went on, and after he was excommunicated by the Church for his unorthodox work in Sicily, he gradually became less concerned about Christianity and more concerned about social justice.

His methods for achieving social justice have been many and varied, some of which have worked and some of which have not. He has been greatly influenced by Gandhi; thus, his methods have always been non-violent. He himself has gone on several hunger strikes in order to get promises from the government carried out. He has organized strikes in reverse in which unemployed men have insisted upon working and have been arrested for doing so.

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* These books are available in most public libraries.

Throughout his career as a social reformer, Dolci has had to fight the distrust the poor of Sicily have of one another, the stranglehold the Mafia has upon the people of Sicily and the fear of change on the part of the churchmen and the wealthy of Sicily.

The following six books are either by or about Danilo Dolci. The rest of the books in this section are by other writers who have an interest in Southern Italy.

Poverty in Sicily by Danilo Dolci

Dolci's method of presenting his case in all his books is a series of interviews. Through these interviews the reader is almost drowned in the anger, despair and resignation of the poor who live in and around Palermo, Sicily. The reality and inevitability of their world is vividly portrayed: slums, demoralization, hunger, crime. The reader wonders how the victims of this social system can remain human, yet throughout the book one is impressed by their insight into what their problems are and their self-respect in spite of everything. This makes the indignities they suffer all the more terrible.

(Dolci, Danilo. Poverty in Sicily. London: MacGibbon and Kee, 1959; available in a Penguin paperback, approximately 95¢.)

Waste: An Eyewitness Report on Some Aspects of Waste in Western Sicily by Danilo Dolci

Using the same technique of presenting a series of interviews, Dolci expresses his anger at the waste of human lives and natural resources in Sicily as well as his impatience with a government that moves too slowly.

(Dolci, Danilo. Waste: an eyewitness report on some aspects of waste in western Sicily. London: MacGibbon and Kee, 1963.)

(See also The outlaws of Partinico by Danilo Dolci. London: MacGibbon and Kee, 1960.)

The Man Who Plays Alone by Danilo Dolci

Again, using the same documentary technique of interviews with Sicilians, Dolci describes his work of the past eleven years. The title refers to the isolation of the poor of Sicily from one another because they fear one another. Dolci's primary purpose in his work has been to persuade them to work and protest together. Mutual distrust by the poor is a basic reason for their exploitation by the Mafia.

(Dolci, Danilo. The man who plays alone. New York: Pantheon Books, 1969.)

Fire Under the Ashes: the Life of Danilo Dolci by James MacNeish

The author presents an objective account of the life of Danilo Dolci, the man Aldous Huxley called a modern saint. Some background of Dolci's early life is given; most of the book, however, is devoted to his work among the poor of Sicily. Despite the attempt by the author to objectively assess Dolci's achievement, the reader is, nevertheless, moved by the devotion and compassion of the man. The negative influence on Sicilian society of the Church, allied with the wealthy, is clearly presented as Dolci moves further and further from orthodox Catholicism.

(MacNeish, James. Fire under the ashes: the life of Danilo Dolci. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1965.)

A Passion for Sicilians by Jerre Mangione

This very recent publication provides a valuable addition to information about the life of Danilo Dolci, the present conditions in Sicily and the many paradoxes of Italian life. It also adds to the analyses of poverty in the world and how poverty can be fought.

(Mangione, Jerre. A passion for Sicilians. New York: William Morrow & Co., 1969.)

A History of Sicily: Medieval Sicily 800 - 1713; Modern Sicily after 1713 by Denis Mack Smith

Denis Mack Smith, an historian of Italy, spent several years writing this history of Sicily, the only modern comprehensive one. He presents an excellent reason for the existence and power of the Mafia -- misgovernment or lack of government for a thousand years so that a parallel order, though illegal, necessarily developed. He also shows why the island has been underdeveloped economically for so long -- violence was and is the socially acceptable route to wealth and power rather than hard work or economic enterprise. Many questions the reader has about Sicily are answered, except why the peasants trust no one outside the family. Of course, this question has never been answered satisfactorily except that it seems to be characteristic of any poverty-stricken society.

(Smith, Denis Mack. A history of Sicily: medieval Sicily 800 - 1713; modern Sicily after 1713. London: Chatto and Windus Ltd., 1968.)

Torregreca: Life, Death, Miracles by Ann Cornelisen

Torregreca is an impoverished Southern Italian town, south of Naples. The author, an American, spent several years in the 1950's there. Despite suspicion and opposition she was eventually able to set up a nursery for the many children. She describes her experiences and the personalities she encounters compassionately and honestly.

(Cornelisen, Ann. Torregreca: life, death, miracles. Boston: Atlantic-Little Brown, 1969.)

Words Are Stones by Carlo Levi

Words Are Stones, by the author of Christ Stopped at Eboli (see multi-media package) is a collection of essays based on Levi's journeys to Sicily in the 1950's. It is a sad book; the beauty of the land is in violent contrast to the misery of the people who, despite their misery, come through to the reader with a dignity worthy of anyone's respect. (Levi, Carlo. Words are stones. New York: Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, 1958.)

Fontamara by Ignazio Silone

Fontamara is a novel and it is the name of an imaginary town in Southern Italy. It is by the author of Bread and Wine (see multi-media package). Silone, like many famous Italian writers and artists, is a native of the South. The events of the novel take place in Fascist Italy; the protagonist dies trying to make public the injustices his fellow-villagers have suffered and he dies to no avail. In reading this book one begins to understand why the most common saying in the South is that nothing can be done. Despite the social protest implicit in the novel, it is an involving, suspenseful story.
(Silone, Ignazio. Fontamara. New York: Atheneum Publications, 1960.)

Revolt in Aspromonte by Corrado Alvaro

The "revolt" in the title of this novel concerns a blind uprising of peasants so frequent in Southern Italy; these uprisings accomplish little except revenge, and in Aspromonte the peasants take their futile revenge on the stupid, decadent feudal family at whose mercy they live. The novel is short and the course of events moves

quickly and inevitably towards the destruction of the family and the society of Aspromonte as a whole.

(Alvaro, Corrado. Revolt in Aspromonte. Norfolk: New Directions, 1962; also available in paperback from same publisher, approximately $1.35.)

History

A Short History of the Italian People by Janet P. Trevelyan

This is a scholarly, political history of Italy from earliest times to the present by the wife of the great social historian J. P. Trevelyan. It is interesting reading, and the complexity of Italian history is dealt with as clearly as possible.

(Trevelyan, Janet P. A short history of the Italian people; revised edition with epilogue by Denis Mack Smith. London: Geo. Allen and Unwin, 1953.)

Italy by Massimo Salvadori

The author deals with the entire history of Italy -- the Roman past, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Risorgimento and Fascism, all with the purpose of creating an understanding of modern Italy. The book is difficult mainly because Italian history is extraordinarily complicated.

(Salvadori, Massimo. Italy. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1965)

Italy: A Modern History by Denis Mack Smith

This is a thorough and interesting history of Italy from the time of its unification in 1870 until the publication of this book. The author devotes considerable time to an analysis of the Mussolini years (1920-1943). The impression the reader receives is that Mussolini would have been stopped up to 1922 were it not for the cunning of Italian

politicians who outsmarted themselves -- not an unusual turn of events in Italy. The book is highly recommended.

(Smith, Denis Mack. Italy: a modern history. Ann Arbour: The University of Michigan, 1959.)

Italy From Liberalism to Fascism, 1870 - 1925 by Christopher Seton-Watson

The interpretation in this book of the years leading up to Fascism in Italy is moderate, falling between the two traditional claims that Fascism was either an unpleasant interruption on the road to liberalism in Italy or a natural outcome of the inefficient, and authoritarian government following unification.

(Seton-Watson, Christopher. Italy from liberalism to Fascism, 1870 - 1925. London: Methuen & Co., Ltd., 1967.)

Italy by Muriel Grindrop

Italy's past history from Roman times to unification is quickly summarized in this book. The rest of the book is devoted to the twentieth century: politics, society, social problems, education, etc. The book is both extremely thorough and interesting.

(Grindrop, Muriel. Italy. London: Ernest Benn Ltd., 1968.)

Society

Italy by R. Steel (Editor)

This book is a collection of recent essays first published in journals and periodicals. The focus is modern Italian society. The book is divided into four sections: culture, politics, economics and the South. It is an informative and readable book.

(Steel, R. (Editor). Italy. New York: H. W. Wilson, 1963.)

Unity in Diversity: Italian Communism and the Communist World by Donald L. M. Blackmer

The author deals with the Italian Communist party in a scholarly manner and the book is only for those extremely interested in the subject. That the Italian Communist leaders have been the most outspoken Communist critics of Soviet society is pointed out here and related to the fact that the Italian Communist party is one of the most effective Communist parties in Western Europe.

(Blackmer, Donald L. M. Unity in diversity: Italian Communism and the Communist world. Cambridge: M.I.T. Press, 1968.)

A City and a World: A Roman Sketch Book by Bernard Wall

This book is a series of essays about the eternal city, Rome. It is written with love and sensitivity for both the past and the present. The most interesting part of the book concerns well-known contemporary figures such as Alberto Moravia who live and work in Rome.

(Wall, Bernard. A city and a world: a Roman sketch book. London: Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1962.)

Beyond the Melting Pot by Nathan Glazer and Daniel Patrick Moynihan

Beyond the Melting Pot is a sociological study of the ethnic groups of New York City; one section deals with the Italian population. Much of the information about how Italians live in New York is quite relevant to an understanding of how Italians live in Toronto. One must remember, however, that the Italian population of New York is less recent than Toronto's and thus recent changes in Southern Italy will be reflected in Toronto's Italian immigrants and not in New York's.

(Glazer, Nathan & Moynihan, Daniel Patrick. Beyond the melting pot. Cambridge: M.I.T. Press and Harvard University Press, 1963.)

The Urban Villagers by Herbert J. Gans

This sociological study of an Italian community in Boston is valuable reading for anyone interested in how Italians live in and adjust to life in the new world. It also shows how an understanding of ethnic groups may help in making city planning and city life more humane.

(Gans, Herbert J. The urban villagers. New York: The Free Press, 1962; also available in paperback by same publisher, approximately $1.35.)

Literature and Culture

A History of Italian Literature by E. H. Wilkins

This is a thorough, informative text. It ends with the Fascist era and thus does not include recent writers; however, it places all past literature from the thirteenth century to the early twentieth century in context. The author describes something of the life and times of each writer. Unless one has read or intends to read some of the writers, the book is not of much use; it is intended to be a reader's companion to the originals.

(Wilkins, E. H. A history of Italian literature. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1950.)

The Passionate Sightseer by Bernard Berenson

From his diaries 1947 - 1956 and from the perspective of old age, Berenson, the famous art critic gives the reader his considered opinion of various Renaissance creations. He is enthusiastic and obviously loves Italy and its art very much.

(Berenson, Bernard. The passionate sightseer. New York: Simon and Schuster and Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1960.)

Classics

The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy (two volumes) by Jacob Burckhardt

This classic work on the Italian Renaissance by the nineteenth century Swiss historian deals with the art and politics of the period and attempts an explanation of why art flourished at that time. The author's thesis that the Renaissance was a rebirth of interest in man and in learning has been supported and refuted by many historians since its publication; it remains, nevertheless, the most exciting work on the Renaissance.

(Burckhardt, Jacob. The civilization of the Renaissance in Italy. Magnolia, Mass.: Peter Smith Publishers, 1961; also available in paperback by Mentor, 1961, approximately 95¢.)

The Divine Comedy by Dante Alighieri

The Divine Comedy, written by the thirteenth century Florentine, Dante Alighieri, is a classic not only of Italian literature but also of all Western literature. It has influenced many writers and thinkers since its inception down to our own time. It is a religious and political allegory, divided into three sections-- hell, purgatory and paradise. The translator's introduction in volume one of this edition is a useful guide to an understanding of the work as a whole.

(Alighieri, Dante. The divine comedy. Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1960.)

The Prince by Niccolo Machiavelli

This is the most famous book by the Renaissance statesman, Machiavelli, whose name has become synonymous with political cynicism. In fact, he merely portrayed realistically and rationally analysed the political forces at work in his time. He is among the first political

theorists to tear away the religious and moral justifications for political actions. His book is still a good antidote to platitudes and propaganda; moreover, he gives a clear picture of politics in Renaissance Italy.

(Machiavelli, Niccolo. The prince. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1947; also available in paperback by same publisher, approximately 50¢.)

The Decameron by Giovanni Boccaccio

The Decameron is a collection of short stories by Boccaccio who lived in fourteenth century Italy. The setting is a country house outside Florence where a group of young people have gathered to escape the plague then ravaging Italy. To pass the time they entertain each other with tales. Every day each person must tell a tale based on a particular theme.

Some of the stories are Boccaccio's own inventions; some are from the traditions of his time. All are well-told, highly amusing and often racy. The Decameron's influence has been great both in Italy and all over Europe.

(Boccaccio, Giovanni. The decameron. Garden City, N.Y.: Garden City Books, 1949; various abridged paperbacks are available.)

I Promessi Sposi (The Betrothed) by Alessanoro Manzoni

The Betrothed, written in 1825 and considered one of the greatest Italian novels, is set in seventeenth century Milan. Within the confines of a simple plot -- the efforts of a young couple to marry -- a panorama of Italian society is presented. Manzoni was writing a satire on the society of his day but because of the repressive government he was compelled to set his social criticism back in history.

The novel is interesting more for its social history than for its plot.

(Manzoni, Alessanoro. I promessi sposi. (The Betrothed). New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1956; also available in paperback by same publisher, approximately $2.45.)

Poetry

Penguin Book of Italian Verse introduced and edited by George R. Kay

This book is an anthology of poetry from the works of St. Frances, Dante and Petrarch to Ungaretti and Quasimodo of our day. The translations are in prose below the originals. The translator has written an excellent introduction to the collection.

(Kay, George R. (Editor) Penguin book of Italian verse. Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1965.)

Poets in a Landscape by Gilbert Highet

Poets in a Landscape is a fascinating book about the major Roman poets such as Catullus, Horace, Ovid, etc. The author gives an interesting interpretive biography along with descriptions of the parts of Italy in which the poets lived and wrote their poetry. He also has translated several poems of each poet.

(Highet, Gilbert. Poets in a landscape. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1957.)

Short Stories

Roman Tales by Alberto Moravia

In this collection and the following one is the strange paradox of a literate, well-educated writer portraying the lives of the illiterate, often in the first person. One doubts that the protagonists have the verbal and psychological awareness that Moravia attributes to them.

Moravia is one of the best known modern writers of Italy and Europe. He has the European "malaise" in his writing and is thus more typically European or international than Italian.

His stories are of life in Rome today -- its crass materialism, technology, poverty, and superstition.

(See also More Roman Tales by Alberto Moravia, London: Secker & Warburg; available in paperback by Penguin, approximately 95¢)

(Moravia, Alberto. Roman tales. London: Secker & Warburg, 1959.)

Six Modern Italian Novellas edited and introduced by William Arrowsmith

This collection of newly translated short novels (or long stories) are by Italian writers of the school of neo-realism; on the whole they belong to the postwar period, 1945-1960. The stories present the misery and poverty that existed in Italy in these years. In most of Italy the post-war boom (since 1960) has put this school of writers into the past, but the novellas are good literature, and give a feeling for Italy's recent past.

(Arrowsmith, William (Editor) Six modern Italian novellas. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1962. This book is no longer in print but is available at some libraries.)

Short Stories by Luigi Pirandello also Naked Masks: Five Plays by Luigi Pirandello

Pirandello was born in Sicily but his works do not reflect a world typically Sicilian or even Italian. Rather he is typical of the disillusioned twentieth century intellectual who presents a disturbing private world of violent and nihilistic forces.

Pirandello wanted to be remembered for his short stories rather than his plays; however, it has been as a skilled dramatist that he is best known. On the stage his vision of man as an actor empty

and alone is convincing whereas his short stories often disappoint the reader; there is no actor to give life to Pirandello's stark characterization and the reader is always aware of the author manipulating his characters -- much as he, in turn, felt he was being lived rather than living.

(Pirandello, Luigi. Short stories. London: Oxford University Press, 1965.)

(Pirandello, Luigi. Naked masks: five plays. New York: E. P. Dutton, 1952.)

Modern Fiction

The post-war years in Italy have witnessed a great upsurge in creative writing particularly in the novel. The first two novels reviewed here are about Italy by non-Italians; the rest are by Italians. All the novels are good literature and full of insight; some are tragic and some are comical; all are uniquely Italian.

The Crime of Giovanni Venturi by Howard Shaw

Giovanni Venturi, a peasant, comes to Rome and sets himself up in the restaurant business. He does reasonably well until a chainstore restaurant moves into the neighbourhood and threatens to put him out of business. With the help of the book-seller next door and the four-times widowed eccentric two doors down, he digs a tunnel to the kitchen of the new restaurant; his business flourishes again and becomes famous all over Europe. In his digging he discovers a legendary Etruscan tomb; he becomes passionately interested in Etruscan history and archaeology and it is this passion which leads to his downfall.

The novel is hilarious, exciting and imparts a feeling for Rome and Italy's ancient past.

(Shaw, Howard. The crime of Giovanni Venturi. New York: Henry Holt, 1959.)

The Light in the Piazza by Elizabeth Spencer

Margaret Johnson's daughter, Clara, is twenty-six years of age and has the mental age of a ten-year old child. She is beautiful but obviously handicapped in the marriage market of North America. Mother and daughter go to Italy to take Clara away from the temptation of the grocer's delivery boy at home. There Clara's problems are solved; for in Italy women are not expected to be more than children.

The book is light entertainment, although there are a few snide comments on both the American and the Italian ways of life.
(Spencer, Elizabeth. The light in the piazza. New York: McGraw Hill, 1960.)

The Little World of Don Camillo
Don Camillo and his Flock
Don Camillo's Dilemma
Don Camillo Takes the Devil by the Tail
Comrade Don Camillo
.... all by Giovanni Guareschi

The Don Camillo stories, originally for serial publication in newspapers or magazines, are humourous whimsies set in the Po Valley of Northern Italy in the euphoric days of the post-war reconstruction. The central source of action is the love-hate relationship between Don Camillo, the village priest, and Peppone, the communist mayor, his arch-rival. There are also the Christ on the altar who instructs and reprimands Don Camillo, and Don Camillo's dog, Thunder, whose thoughts the reader listens in on.

Such is Guareschi's skill as a writer that he avoids allowing his occasional use of pathos to degenerate into sentimentality, while his anti-Marxist humour is subtly barbed but never barbaric.

The last of the series, Comrade Don Camillo, is the only book in which the format is that of a novel rather than a series of loosely interlocked short stories and is the least attractive piece of writing.

As Guareschi confesses in his prologue, the world of Don Camillo is past, gone with the transition from what he saw as reconstruction to what he sees as degeneration in Italian society. In his new mood of cynicism Guareschi allows Don Camillo's anti-communism to become blatant and dishonest and the spell is broken.

(Guareschi, Giovanni. The little world of Don Camillo. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1951.)

(_____. Don Camillo and his flock. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1953.)

(_____. Don Camillo's dilemma. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1954.)

(_____. Don Camillo takes the devil by the tail. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1957.)

(_____. Comrade Don Camillo. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1964.)

... all available in paperbacks by Simon & Schuster @ 50¢

The House that Nino Built by Giovanni Guareschi

By the author of the Don Camillo series, this book concerns the author's family life and the buying and remodelling of a new home.

The style is careless and the emotional stance is lighthearted. Each chapter seems to have been written to stand on its own; thus one assumes the book was written in serial form.

It is not a very profound book and while it is amusing it does not give the insight that was present in the author's books on Don Camillo.

(Guareschi, Giovanni. The house that Nino built. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1953.)

Bébo's Girl by Carlo Cassola

The characters of this book, mostly Tuscans, are both influenced by and representative of the turmoil of post-war Italy. Fascist and anti-Fascist conflicts involve otherwise ordinary lives. Bébo is a young ex-partisan hero who becomes implicated in the shooting of a policeman; Bébo's girl, Mara, has to discover her feelings before she can make decisions about her role in Bébo's consequent exile.

The book won the Strega Award and according to Time and Tide it is "a very fair assurance of quality in Italian literature."
(Cassola, Carlo. Bébo's girl. New York: Pantheon Books, 1962.)

Voices in the Evening by Natalia Ginzberg

Told in a flat, unemotional manner, this novel concerns a family of factory owners and their inability to use their wealth in a rewarding way, either to themselves or to society. The narrator is a girl who unhappily loves one of the sons of the family.

The book is short and enjoyable reading; it attempts to give a picture of Italian provincial life in the North.
(Ginzberg, Natalia. Voices in the evening. London: Hogarth Press, 1963.)

Bruno Santini by Vasco Pratolini

The setting of this novel is modern-day Florence. Bruno, the protagonist, is the intelligent, sensitive son of a neurotic mother, whose husband has been killed in the War. The two major influences on Bruno's life are his mother whom he loves and pities and Milloschi, a Communist, whom he loves and respects yet of whom he is jealous.

The threads throughout the book are his tragic love for Lori and his maturing political awareness.

The book is excellent as a very human tale of an adolescent growing up in the aftermath of the War, as a view of the Italian working class and as an explanation for the power and respectability of the Communist party in Italy.

(Pratolini, Vasco. Bruno Santini. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1964.)

That Awful Mess on the Via Merulana by Carlo Emilio Gadda

A murder is committed and the central character, a police detective, is assigned to investigate. This is the format of a sometimes rollicking, often satirical display of Italian society at every level.

Gadda has been compared to James Joyce; this stream of consciousness novel, however, is not as difficult to follow as Joyce's work, at least not in this translation. Nevertheless, it requires a certain perseverance.

(Gadda, Carlo Emilio. That awful mess on the Via Merulana. New York: George Braziller, 1965.)

Rage by Lorenza Mazzetti

The War and its repercussions seem to be a source for many writers. This particular novel concerns the anguish of an adolescent girl whose Jewish foster-family had been machine-gunned before her eyes when she was a child. Now she feels guilty for not having been killed too; at the same time she fears and is disgusted by the complacency of the people in her town in Northern Italy. The title, Rage, describes her emotions accurately; she is angry at everyone.

The novel illustrates the agonies of adolescence for any child in our time and it is solidly grounded in a specific reality.

(Mazzetti, Lorenza. Rage. New York: David McKay, 1965.)

The Transfer by Silvano Ceccherini

The "transfer" of the title is the protagonist's transfer from one prison to another. He is a prisoner and has been for twenty years. The novel is somewhat autobiographical; it was written when the author himself was in prison.

The theme of the novel is the protagonist's attempt to maintain his dignity and sense of brotherhood with mankind despite the affronts from guards and fellow prisoners. The characters present a cross-section of Italy -- people from every area of Italy and every walk of life. The injustice of Italian justice -- one for the rich and one for the poor -- is overwhelmingly presented.

The affirmation of life and humanity in The Transfer as well as the author's skill makes the novel well worth reading.

(Ceccherini, Silvano. The transfer. London: Eyre & Spottiswood, 1966.)

The Devil in the Hills by Cesare Pavese

The essential conflict in this short novel is one of values. Three middle class young boys, products of the affluent society, are somewhat aimless but certainly capable of enjoying the world; they meet a decadent young man, a little older than themselves, from a very wealthy family. All the young boys are corrupted a little by their relationship with the wealthy young man and his wife.

The author loves the country. His descriptions are sensual and tactile. The novel is representative of the new affluent Italy.

(Pavese, Cesare. The devil in the hills. London: Peter Owen, 1963: also available in paperback by Penguin, approximately 95¢.)

SOURCES OF BOOKS IN THE MULTI-MEDIA PACKAGE ON ITALY

Barzini, L. The Italians. New York: Atheneum, 1964.

Culinary Arts Institute. The Italian cookbook. Chicago: Culinary Arts Institute, 1954.

di Lampedusa, G. The leopard. New York: Pantheon Books, 1960.

Fernandez, D. The mother sea: travels in south Italy, Sardinia and Sicily. London: Martin Secker and Warburg, 1967.

Levi, C. Christ stopped at Eboli. New York: Noonday Press, 1963.

Moravia, A. Two women. London: Secker and Warburg, 1958.

Paine, Roberta. The Renaissance. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Russoli, F. Renaissance painting. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1962.

Silone, I. Bread and wine. New York: New American Library, 1963.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS ON ITALY,
AVAILABLE FOR RENT OR PURCHASE IN AND AROUND TORONTO

Filmstrips

I -- Encyclopaedia Britannica Publications Ltd.,
151 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ontario.

(1) Italian Children -- black and white; has subtitles -- $3.00

One of a series on Children of Many Lands, intended for primary and intermediate grades, but also good for older age groups.

(2) Rome: The City -- colour; has guide -- $6.00

(3) Art in the Early Renaissance Italy (Byzantine, Romanesque)

Art of the Northern Italian Renaissance (Venetian)

Art of the High Renaissance

An excellent series in colour; has guide -- each filmstrip $6.00

II -- Carman Educational Associates Ltd.,
Pine Grove, Ontario.

* (1) Italy: The Changing South -- colour -- $7.00

(2) Village Life in Northern Italy -- colour -- $7.00

(3) Italy: The Country and Its People

Geography

* History

Livelihood

Rome

This is an excellent set in "The Nations of Today" series, comprising four filmstrips in colour, two records and teaching guides. Each filmstrip $7.00, each record $4.00 or $35.00 for the set.

This list of filmstrips is by no means complete. The above distributors have other filmstrips available and there are other distributors in the Toronto area, such as McGraw-Hill, Educational Film Distributors, Sovereign Film Distributors, Teaching Aids Department at the Toronto Board of Education (all material from the Teaching Aids Department is loaned out free of charge). Each of the distributors mentioned above have a number of filmstrips on Ancient Rome but these have not been mentioned here since the selection has been made in favour of contemporary filmstrips.

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* These filmstrips are included in the Multi-Media Package.

Slides

The Royal Ontario Museum is in the process of assembling sets of coloured slides, so that a selection should become available for purchase in the future.

The Audio-Visual Department of the Ontario Art Gallery has a wide selection of slides available for loan only.

Films

A vast number of Italian films are released every year; Italian directors such as Fellini, Vittoria de Sica and Visconti have international standing, and many Italian film stars are even more widely known.

The most popular films can be seen in theatres or on television, and arrangements can be made with the film company which has distributing rights in Canada to rent a film for private showings. Not all films, however, are available in 16 mm. particularly the newest ones or the restricted-viewing films. Italian-made films are also available for rent from film companies in Toronto specializing in foreign films, such as Janus Film Library Limited. The Canadian Film Institute in Ottawa has a wide selection of foreign films which can be rented by film societies.

A number of other companies such as Educational Film Distributors or Encyclopaedia Britannica have a variety of educational or documentary films available for rent or purchase. The International Film Foundation in New York has a particularly fine collection of documentaries on many different countries, including two on Italy called Bread and Wine and Artisans of Florence.

The Teaching Aids Department at the Toronto Board of Education has a number of catalogues and these can, of course, be obtained directly

from the film company concerned. Rental fees vary enormously and depend on a number of factors such as the size of the audience, the purpose for which the film is being shown; they range from $5.00 a day for a short film to $50.00 a day for a full-length feature movie.

A problem in selecting suitable films and in compiling a bibliography such as this is that it is seldom possible to preview films, unless prior to purchase. As a result, recommendations in some cases have had to be made on the basis of a printed synopsis or a verbal report from a reliable source, rather than a personal viewing of the film. In addition, it should be remembered that the films mentioned here are only a minute sample of what is actually available, and that there are a number of other film companies in the Toronto area which have not been listed.

The main criterion for selection has been that the film should give a realistic and up-to-date portrayal of some aspect of the Italian way of life or the Italian people.

Feature Films

I -- International Film Distributors,
20 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

(1) Divorce Italian Style* -- 108 minutes; two versions - dubbed or subtitled; a comedy about sexual mores, set in the south of Italy.

The same film company has a number of other Italian films, which are recommended but unfortunately not yet available in 16 mm., for example --

(2) The Organiser

(3) Two Women

(4) Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

(5) Marriage Italian Style

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* This film was selected for showing at the Toronto Board of Education's Film Festival in May, 1969.

II -- Twentieth Century-Fox Corporation,
110 Bond Street, Toronto 2, Ontario.

The Leopard -- based on the book by Giuseppe di Lampedusa; a historical novel set in Sicily at the time of Garibaldi and his Redshirts.

III -- Janus Film Library (Canada) Limited,
224 Davenport Road, Toronto, Ontario.

This company has a large selection of Italian films, which are excellent in terms of artistic merit, but many were made in the 1940's and 50's and, moreover, do not attempt to present a realistic picture of life in Italy. With this reservation in mind, among the most outstanding are --

(1) Open City -- 90 minutes; subtitled; 1945

(2) I Vitelloni -- 109 minutes; subtitled; 1953

(3) L'Avventura -- 145 minutes; subtitled; 1960

(4) Bread, Love and Dreams -- 108 minutes; subtitled; 1953

(5) Love and Larceny -- 94 minutes; subtitled; 1959

(6) High Infidelity -- 130 minutes; subtitled; 1965

Particularly recommended:

(7) Gold of Naples -- 107 minutes; subtitled; 1955; a series of vignettes of typical Neapolitans (no good print available in March, 1969)

(8) The Bicycle Thief -- waiting for distributing rights in March, 1969

Documentaries

I -- National Film Board of Canada (Distribution Branch)
1 Lombard Street East, Toronto, Ontario.

Courtship -- 28 minutes; one of the "Comparison" series comparing customs in Sicily, India, Iran and Canada.

II -- Teaching Aids Department, Toronto Board of Education,
155 College Street, Toronto, Ontario.
(These may be borrowed by Toronto teachers at no charge.)

(1) The Visit -- 20 minutes; an Italian visits his home village in the south of Italy thirteen years after emigrating to Canada.

(2) The Italians* -- 60 minutes; based on Barzini's controversial book "The Italians," with commentary by the author.

(3) Italian Children -- 11 minutes; describes a day in the life of Italian farm children; intended for primary grades but also good for older age groups. This film is a companion to a filmstrip of the same title available from Encyclopaedia Britannica, and included in the Multi-Media Package.

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* This film was selected for showing at the Toronto Board of Education's Film Festival in May, 1969.

III -- McGraw-Hill Company of Canada Limited,
330 Progress Avenue, Scarboro, Ontario.

(1) Italian Farm Family -- 11 minutes; colour; looks at a day in the life of a typical farm family in southern Italy.

(2) Italy: Progress Amidst The Past -- 20 minutes; examines and contrasts farming life in the north and in the south of Italy.

IV -- Educational Film Distributors Limited,
191 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto 12, Ontario.

People of Venice -- 16 minutes; about a working-class family living today against the background of Venice's past.

V -- Coronet Films (Canadian distributors are Sovereign Film Distributors Limited,
277 Victoria Street, Toronto 2, Ontario)

This company has a number of art films, for example -- Michelangelo and His Art, and Leonardo da Vinci and His Art.

SOURCES OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS
IN THE MULTI-MEDIA PACKAGE ON ITALY

Prints

The twelve black and white photographs of Roman and Renaissance art were obtained from the Royal Ontario Museum.

The postcards in colour were obtained from the Ontario Art Gallery.

Filmstrips

Italy: The Changing South and Italy: History from "The Nations of Today" series in colour with scripts were obtained from Carman Educational Associates, Pine Grove, Ontario.

Italian Children in black and white with subtitles was obtained from Encyclopaedia Brittanica Publications Limited, 151 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ontario.

Tape

The music for the tape was recorded from records obtained in Toronto's "little Italy" (between Bathurst and Ossington Avenues, south of Bloor Street).